

IN THE CLAIMS

The claims pending in the application are reproduced below for the convenience of the Examiner.

1. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing an electric motor, comprising the acts of:
extruding a portion of a conduit box to form a hollow extension;
inserting the extension through a first hole in a motor housing of an electric motor;
and
permanently plastically deforming the extension after the extension is inserted through the first hole to form a flange thereby to prevent withdrawal of the extension through the first hole.
2. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein extruding comprises driving a first punch through a second hole in the conduit box to form a generally cylindrical extension.
3. (original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein driving a first punch comprises pressing a conical portion of the first punch into the second hole followed by a cylindrical portion of the first punch.
4. (original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein inserting comprises inserting the generally cylindrical extension through a generally circular first hole in the motor housing.
5. (original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein plastically deforming the extension comprises driving a second punch against the generally cylindrical extension to form a generally circular flange.

6. (original) The method as recited in claim 5, wherein driving a second punch comprises pressing a conical portion of the second punch into the generally cylindrical extension followed by a cylindrical portion of the second punch.

7. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising disposing a stator within the motor housing.

8. (original) The method as recited in claim 7, further comprising routing a plurality of conductors from the stator to the conduit box through the extension.

9. (original) The method as recited in claim 7, further comprising threading a first member through the conduit box and the motor housing to prevent the stator from rotating and to prevent movement of the conduit box.

10. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein plastically deforming comprises coining the extension against an interior surface of the motor housing.

11. - 22. (canceled).

23. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing an electric motor, comprising the acts of:

disposing an extension from a bottom of a conduit box through an ~~opening in~~ through a motor housing of an electric motor; and

plastically deforming the extension to form a flange that captures ~~to capture~~ the motor housing between the flange ~~extension~~ and the bottom of the conduit box to secure the conduit box to the motor housing.

24. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim ~~25~~ 23, comprising extruding a portion of the conduit box to form the extension.

25. (original) The method as recited in claim 24, wherein extruding comprises driving a first punch through an opening in the conduit box to form a generally cylindrical extension.

26. (original) The method as recited in claim 25, wherein driving a first punch comprises pressing a conical portion of the first punch into the second hole followed by a cylindrical portion of the first punch.

27. (original) The method as recited in claim 25, wherein the opening in the motor housing is generally circular and disposing comprises inserting the generally cylindrical extension through the generally circular first hole in the motor housing.

28. (original) The method as recited in claim 27, wherein plastically deforming the extension comprises driving a second punch against the generally cylindrical extension to form a generally circular flange.

29. (original) The method as recited in claim 28, wherein driving a second punch comprises pressing a conical portion of the second punch into the generally cylindrical extension followed by a cylindrical portion of the second punch.

30. (new) A method of manufacturing an electric motor, comprising the acts of:

disposing an extension from a bottom of a conduit box through an opening in a motor housing of an electric motor; and

plastically deforming the extension to form a generally circular flange having a smooth inner surface and capturing the motor housing between the generally circular flange and the bottom of the conduit box to secure the conduit box to the motor housing.

31. (new) The method as recited in claim 30, comprising extruding a portion of the conduit box to form the extension.

32. (new) The method as recited in claim 31, wherein extruding comprises driving a first punch through an opening in the conduit box to form a generally cylindrical extension.

33. (new) The method as recited in claim 32, wherein driving a first punch comprises pressing a conical portion of the first punch into the opening in the conduit box hole followed by a cylindrical portion of the first punch.

34. (new) The method as recited in claim 30, wherein the opening in the motor housing is generally circular and disposing comprises inserting the generally cylindrical extension through the generally circular first hole in the motor housing.

35. (new) The method as recited in claim 34, wherein plastically deforming the extension comprises driving a second punch against the generally cylindrical extension forming the generally circular flange.

36. (new) The method as recited in claim 35, wherein driving a second punch comprises pressing a conical portion of the second punch into the generally cylindrical extension followed by a cylindrical portion of the second punch, the cylindrical portion of the second punch having an arcuate profile, such that that it presses the generally circular flange flush against the surface of the motor housing.